

CHANGING OF THE TIMES

With this issue of *Rangelands* we are embarking upon a new era. These changes are a result of several factors, personnel changes, state of the economy, and improved technology.

Personnel Changes: Most Society for Range Management members are aware that Dr. Patrica Smith, Production Editor for *Rangelands* since its beginning, retired on 1 April 1994 and left the SRM production staff to pursue other interests. The duties of Production Editor for both *Rangelands* and the *Journal for Range Management* are now being fulfilled by Patty Perez who has been involved with the Society's publications for over 15 years as typesetter and Assistant Production Editor.

The Economy: One of the main goals of *Rangelands* is to present articles of interest to the SRM members in a non-technical format. These articles cover a wide range of subjects such as historical accounts, new research findings, opinions, and many other topics. *Rangelands* is a forum for the members to communicate with others within and outside the Society for Range Management. From its inception *Rangelands* has depended upon its members, and others, for voluntary submission of articles. The articles are reviewed with comments submitted to the author(s) for consideration during the revision process. The ability to pay page charge has not been a factor in the acceptance of an article for publication. Under this concept *Rangelands* has developed into one of the major success stories for the Society.

The changing times are upon us which require us to modify our philosophy. We must try to derive some additional funds to support the costs of producing *Rangelands*. The Society for Range Management Board of Directors has requested that authors pay page charges unless there is written verification of no institutional, agency, or industry support to defray those costs. It is not our purpose to "turn down" any article because of the

absence of page charge funds. We do ask that any author make an honest attempt to find funds to support the page charges. It is our belief that most agencies and institutions have means to support page charges especially if they can be identified in the yearly planning and budgeting processes.

Improved Technology: The typesetting equipment used for this issue of *Rangelands* was "State-of-the-Art" when purchased new 10 years ago. It can still furnish a superb product. Unfortunately, technology has made it outdated, parts and service are almost a thing of the past. Starting with the next issue of the *Journal of Range Management* the articles and manuscripts for *Rangelands* and the *Journal of Range Management* will be prepared using "desk-top-publishing" on PCs. This allows the submission of articles on computer floppy disks. This will reduce the work in preparing the papers for printing and hopefully reduce the number of errors that need to be corrected in the proofing process.

While the past is good to remember, we must be open minded toward the future. We hope the changes which are being implemented will allow us to continue to produce the quality product the members of the Society for Range Management have come to expect each month. The Production Staff of *Rangelands* and the *Journal for Range Management*,
Gary Frasier, Technical Editor
Bud Rumburg, Managing Editor
Patty Perez, Production Editor
Tawnya Castello, Production Assistant